



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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WASHINGTON'S WHEAT STOCKS HIGHEST SINCE 2003

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 31, 2006--The quantity of **wheat** stored in all positions in Washington on March 1, 2006 was higher than the quantity being stored on March 1 a year earlier. Chris Messer, State Director for the USDA, NASS, Washington Field Office stated that "Wheat stocks in Washington totaled 83.5 million bushels, an increase of 24 percent from March 1, 2005. This is the largest March 1 wheat stocks since 2003."

Wheat stored on farms in Washington on March 1, 2006, totaled 9.5 million bushels, up 2.5 million bushels from March 1, 2005. Off-farm wheat stocks totaled 74.0 million bushels, up 23 percent from a year ago.

The quantity of wheat stored in the **Pacific Northwest** (Washington, Oregon, and Idaho), on March 1, 2006 totaled 137.3 million bushels, 15 percent higher than last year. On-farm stocks, at 26.5 million bushels, were up 5.0 million bushels from last year. Holdings off-farm were 110.8 million bushels, 13 percent above a year ago. The quantity of wheat stored in the United States totaled 972.2 million bushels, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Washington on-farm **barley** stocks, on March 1, 2006, totaled 700 thousand bushels, down 300 thousand from a year ago. The quantity of barley stored in the state's off-farm storages was 5.5 million bushels, a decrease of 28 percent from the quantity in storage on March 1, 2005. Pacific Northwest barley stocks in all positions totaled 51.6 million bushels on March 1, 2006, an increase of 7 percent from the quantity in storage on March 1, 2005. Nationally, barley stocks in all positions totaled 166.6 million bushels, down 13 percent from last year.



GRAIN STOCKS: MARCH 1, 2005, DECEMBER 1, 2005 1/, & MARCH 1, 2006

Crop/ Quarter	Washington			Pacific Northwest 2/			United States		
	On-Farm	Off-Farm 3/	Total	On-Farm	Off-Farm 3/	Total	On-Farm	Off-Farm 3/	Total
1,000 Bushels									
Wheat									
Mar. 1, 2005	7,000	60,036	67,036	21,500	97,882	119,382	304,710	679,681	984,391
Dec. 1, 2005	16,000	100,600	116,600	50,000	156,053	206,053	513,010	916,414	1,429,424
Mar. 1, 2006	9,500	73,951	83,451	26,500	110,834	137,334	256,000	716,240	972,240
Barley									
Mar. 1, 2005	1,000	7,673	8,673	19,350	28,725	48,075	79,680	111,001	190,681
Dec. 1, 2005	1,300	6,542	7,842	24,850	37,438	62,288	103,650	104,335	207,985
Mar. 1, 2006	700	5,514	6,214	19,500	32,118	51,618	68,400	98,164	166,564
Oats									
Mar. 1, 2005	*	278	*	*	910	*	43,500	38,946	82,446
Dec. 1, 2005	*	138	*	*	758	*	60,100	35,617	95,717
Mar. 1, 2006	*	106	*	*	535	*	41,900	32,812	74,712
Corn									
Mar. 1, 2005	*	9,438	*	*	12,631	*	4,137,000	2,619,334	6,756,334
Dec. 1, 2005	*	12,331	*	*	15,462	*	6,325,000	3,489,957	9,814,957
Mar. 1, 2006	*	6,921	*	*	11,038	*	4,055,000	2,932,178	6,987,178

1/ Revised.

2/ Includes Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

3/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

* Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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